TL3586

OMCT
OPERATING THE SOS-TORTURE NETWORK

ORGANISATION MONDIALE CONTRE LA TORTURE
WORLD ORGANIZATION AGAINST TORTURE
Director Eric Sottas

CASE POSTALE 119 - 37-39, RUE DE VERMONT
CH 1211 GENÈVE 20 CIC
TÉLÉPHONE +4122-733 31 40
FAX +4122-733 10 51

ELECTRONIC MAIL OMCT@GEONET.POPTEL.ORG.UK
OMCT@IPROLINK.CH

Case IDN/TMP 121296

The International Secretariat of OMCT requests your **URGENT** intervention in the following situation in **East Timor.**

Brief description of the situation:
The International Secretariat has been informed, by reliable sources, of the arrest on 15 November 1996 of Mr **Rodolfo Sarmento** from the hamlet of Titilari in the village of Ililae Laivai/Lautem and the presumed arrest of **five other East Timorese people.**

Rodolfo Sarmento, who is the son of Daniel and Maria Sarmento, was beaten in his garden by members of the Indonesian military and accused of being a member of the Clandestine Front and contacting the Resistance guerrillas. He was then arrested and taken to Baucau, where he is believed to be still in detention. It is believed that Members of the Rajawali Battalion from Laga in the Baucau district are responsible for his arrest. Under the circumstances, there are grave fears for his physical and psychological integrity.

On the same day, another **five East Timorese men** were beaten by members of the Indonesian military. According to one East Timorese source, they were immediately released, however, a later report states that the five were in fact arrested but that the date and details of their arrests are not known. It is believed they are still in detention but their whereabouts is unknown.

OMCT believes that the six people may have been arbitrarily arrested. It is feared that if they are still in detention they may be subjected of torture and ill-treatment. These human rights violations occur frequently in East Timor, especially when detainees are not allowed access to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and lawyers of their own choice.

The details of the detainees are:

1. **Rodolfo Sarmento, 26**, from Titilari, village of Ililae, Laivai/Lautem
2. **Anselmo do Carmo, 33,** from Uainiria, village of Euquessi, Laivai/Lautem
3. **Bernardino Fonseca, 24,** (Anselmo's brother)
4. **Tomas dos Santos, 33,** from Barliu, village of Euquessi, Laivai/Lautem
5. **Julio da Costa, 21** (no details)
6. **Americo da Costa, 25,** from Uainira, village of Euquessi, Laivai/Lautem

Action requested :
Please write to the Indonesian authorities urging them to:

i. immediately locate the whereabouts of **Rodolfo Sarmento** and guarantee his physical and psychological integrity;

ii inform the families of the five other persons of their current whereabouts and status. Should they be detained take all measures to guarantee their physical and psychological integrity;

ii. order the immediate release of all those detained without valid charges or, if such charges exist, bring them before a competent and impartial civil tribunal and guarantee their procedural rights at all times;

iii. open a full impartial inquiry into the events and allegations of violations of fundamental rights, identify all those responsible and bring them to trial and apply the penal, civil and /or administrative sanctions provided by legislation;

iv. guarantee in all circumstances respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with national laws and international standards.

Addresses:
MINISTER OF JUSTICE M. Haji Utoyo Usman S.H., Menteri Kehakiman, Jl. H.R. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7, Kuningan, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia. Fax : + 62 21 314 1625
MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA (includes East Timor)
Maj Gen H.A. Rivai, Pangdam IX/Udayana, Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, INDONESIA Telegrams: Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
CHIEF OF POLICE FOR EAST TIMOR
Colonel Yusuf Mucharam, Kapolda Timor Timur, Dili, East Timor, INDONESIA
Telegrams: Kapolda, Dili, East Timor
SECRETARY GENERAL, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Prof. Dr. Baharuddin Lopa, Sekretaris Jenderal, Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia (Komnas HAM), Jl Pemuda No.104, Rawamangun, Jakarta Timur, INDONESIA Faxes: +62 21 470 0775

Geneva, 12 December 1996

Kindly inform us of any action undertaken quoting the code of this appeal in your repply.